THE OBSERVER



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EARLY EDITION:





SJC's new entranceway is complete and in full bloom. Featured on the left side is the logo and two of the four flags making up the plaza, and on the right is a Puma paw and the remaining two flags. For complete story, see page 4.



After being closed to residents for an entire year, Seifert Hall reopened as a co-ed residence hall to greet the Class of 2007.

Pictured is Seifert East, housing men (left), and Seifert West, housing women (right). For complete story, see page 4.



Continuing renovations on the cafeteria took place in the summer months of 2003. Featured are the main hot-food area (left) and the sandwich/salad bar area (right). For complete story, see page 4.





Meet the New Faces of SIC

In honor of the new faces of SJC, The Observer staff has worked to bring you an early edition featuring brief articles and many pictures of the campus renovations and the freshmen Pumas.

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EARLY EDITION

Summer Renovations

The HUB:

The HUB has also been through a few changes over the summer. Because of the cafeteria additions, five feet of space and therefore one pool table have been sacrificed. On a positive note, though, Pumas will be pleased to find a nine-item Dollar Menu, additions to the Sub Connection submarine sandwich varieties, and some lower prices. The HUB is also sponsoring a sub frequent buyer program. In addition, the booths were moved to the opposite wall and new carpet and paint adorn the space itself, found to the left of the cafeteria in the Halleck Student Center.

Cafeteria:

The SJC cafeteria in the Halleck Student Center is hardly recognizable for most returning students. Last year Pumas became well-accustomed to the new look of the caf, but it was only a stage in the overall development of the dining facility. This year the entire eating area has been enlarged with much of the kitchen and kitchen staff in full view.

Food Service Production Manager Eric Garriot says that the new layout will make personalized dishes much easier to prepare. For example, if a student wants a hamburger from the new grilling station, but without all of the toppings that are standard, the student has only to tell the staff member what he/she would like and that is how the burger will be prepared.

The food itself has also undergone some renovation. Hamburgers and grilled cheese sandwiches can be expected on a daily basis. The specialty pizza varieties are increasing to include such types as Philly Cheese Steak and Portobello Mushroom.

The seating capacity of the cafeteria has only slightly increased, commented Food Service General Manager Janna Oberg. A noticeable change, though, in seating is an enclosed private dining area. This area can be reserved for any group by calling extension 6179.

Entranceway:

Although completed before commencement services in May 2003, the SJC entranceway is not the same one as returning students departed with in May. The flowers have

filled in and the grass has regrown, transforming the once barren lime-stone- and- brick entranceway into a whole new first-impression for The College. The adorning flag plaza has been added and displays the four flags which give Saint Joseph's College its personality. Our new face has been completed, just in time to greet the incoming class of 2007 with a fresh smile.

Conceptualized in the summer months of 2000, the entranceway construction was completed in time for commencement services in May of 2003, thanks to contributions from the SJC graduating class of 1961. Now in full bloom, the new landscape designs are prominent and feature boxwood hedges and flowerbeds of both perrenial and annual flowers. New to returning students is the flag plaza, proudly flying the flags of the U.S., Indiana, Saint Joseph's College, and Missionaries of the Precious Blood, built with donations from the SJC graduating class of 1956.

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Seifert Hall:

During the spring semester of 2001, an administrative counsel consisting of Dean of Students John Keller, Vice President for Business Affairs Randy Freebourn, and then-president Skip Shannon, decided to renovate the decaying Seifert Hall. Seifert Hall is one of the oldest buildings on the Saint Joseph's College campus. It opened in September of 1939, and over the years housed many students, thusly incurring much wear and tear.

By 2001, the building was the most inadequate of the still-operative residence halls on campus. "It needed [renovation]" explains Keller. "There was only one light for every three or four doors, and the heating system [was outdated]." After the decision to renovate Seifert was made, a poll was taken of students. In this poll, students were asked

to list what they would like done to the aging Seifert Hall. At the top of the list were air conditioning, and better heating, lighting, and carpeting. All that was left was to make the students' wishes come true.

Renovation on Seifert Hall started in the fall of 2002. In addition to adding air conditioning and improving the heating, lighting, and carpeting through out the building, various other improvements were implemented in Seifert Hall. "There is new tile in all rooms, the radiators were removed from the building, and all rooms were painted and [given new] window treatments," explains Director of Housing, Michele Gunkleman. "Dry wall was also put over the walls, which used to be tile, fire escapes were added, and all rooms were renumbered. The laundry room on the west side of Seifert was remodeled, and a new laundry room was added to the

east side. Trashcans were also removed from the hallways and placed in a room near the exits [in the interest of fire safety]" adds Gunkleman.

In addition to the exhausting physical changes to be made, there were additional areas that begged improvement. "The reputation [of Seifert Hall] needed to be renovated as well," says Keller. And while such an idea may have been in the back of the minds of those behind this project, the notion of making Seifert a co-ed living facility came only after the initial decision to renovate. "We planned on dividing the building due to noise concerns," admits Keller. Therefore, "a wall was constructed to divide [Seifert] into east and west wings," explains Gunkleman. This wall separates the west wing, which houses women, from the east wing, which houses men. "All students have key access to all doors on their side,' explains Gunkleman.

Questions? Comments? observer-editors@saintjoe.edu

Keller and Gunkleman are quick to admit that the project is far from over. There is still work to be done in the lounges and bathrooms of the residence hall. However, Keller feels that these renovations - done both to the exterior of Seifert and its reputation - "adds a whole new look [to SJC]." He calls Seifert "an attractive place to live" and feels that it "helps [SJC] attract more students in the future...[Seifert Hall] is what students want."

Renee Pugh Reporter

Additional Campus Changes:

All students must obtain new ID cards this year.

Students can receive their new card by getting a new picture taken in Dean Keller's office. The new cards feature a magnetic strip for cafeteria use and a barcode for use in the library

The library has received a new catalog and computers.

The new catalog, called ALEPH, is a shared system with 22 other libraries that belong to PALNI. It is a web-based system and is available worldwide through the SJC library webpage. In addition, the library has five new desktop computers and one new laptop computer for staff use, as well as laptops that can be checked out at the circulation desk for in-library use only. For more information, contact Cathy Salyers at 6212.

Wireless Internet is now available in several buildings.

The Core Building, Science Building, and McHale now have wireless internet access.

The Grotto has new structure and landscaping.

New wiring and piping have been installed underground, and several trees have been

removed from the surrounding area. In addition, more fish and plants have been added to the stone pond. Additional renovations that will take place at a later date include repaying the paths that run through the grotto and rebuilding and lighting the Stations of the Cross.

Sandra Wood Reporter Welcome new full-time faculty members:

Aristides Gamez
Spanish

Dr. Violet Lanis
Education

Tuyen Nguyen Social Work

Gerald Powell Communications

Suzanne Zurn-Birkhimer Environmental Science